

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of June 18, 2003, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over DE 9218985 in view of the patent to Morse.

Claims 14 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the patent to Okada et al. in view of XP-002128554, Honda and Morse.

Claims 17-20 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Okada et al., XP-002128554, Honda and Morse, and further in view of the patent to Vogt.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, Applicant has amended independent claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the methods and constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to German reference 9218985, it can be seen that this reference discloses a laminator for producing a card.

The patent to Morse discloses a heat shielded press.

The Examiner combined these references in determining that claims 12 and 13 would be unpatentable over such combination. The combination of references does not teach a method for producing a card-shaped information carrier in which the peripheral, narrow, outer boundary region of the inserted template is enclosed by a peripheral frame consisting of material which is one of substantially non-heat conducting, reflects heat and concentrates heat back onto an inserted laminate so that quantities of heat flowing off *per se* there are retained, blocked in, reflected and concentrated back onto the template, as in the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, the combination of references does not teach utilizing such a frame which has internal dimensions that correspond to the final dimensions of the card-shaped carrier. The method having these steps is not taught by the combination of reference relied upon by the Examiner. It bears repeating that Morse only teaches a press with a heat shield that only serves for preventing heat loss when the press is opened. There is absolutely no suggestion or motivation for using the teachings of Morse to concentrate the heat back onto the laminate, as in

the presently claimed invention. Without some teaching which would motivate those skilled in the art to make the combination, the combination can only result from hindsight reconstruction of the invention. Without the present invention as a guide, there is absolutely nothing in the teachings of these references which would motivate one skilled in the art to make the combination argued by the Examiner. There is no teaching or suggestion by the references for concentrating heat back onto the laminate. This knowledge can be gleaned only from the Applicant's disclosure. The object of Morse to prevent heat loss is for the purpose of providing a more comfortable working environment for the press operator. This is completely different than the objectives sought and obtained by the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The Examiner once again repeats the rejection of claims 14 and 22 over the combination of Okada, XP-002128554, Honda and Morse. Applicant once again respectfully submits that there is nothing in the teachings of these references which would motivate one skilled in the art to make the combination of four references as argued by the Examiner to arrive at the presently claimed invention. The references do not in any way address the problems being solved by the presently claimed invention, nor do they suggest how these problems should be dealt with. Without some such discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation for combining the references as argued by the Examiner. Okada does not teach a frame or side structure designed to peripheral regions that consist of a material which is slightly heat conducting, reflects heat and concentrates heat back into the inserted laminate. Furthermore, Okada does not disclose that the frame has a reduction in material in a transitional edge region in order to increase specific contact pressure between the frame border edge and the upper heating plate. None of the remaining three references, XP-002128554, Honda and Morse, provide any discussion or suggestion for such a frame. The basis for the combination as presented by the Examiner does not find support in the teachings of the references, but instead is a subjective interpretation by the Examiner based upon the teachings of the present application. Applicant once again states that there is nothing in the teachings of the references which suggests or

motivates one skilled in the art to make the combination argued by the Examiner. Such a combination could only be contemplated, if at all, in hindsight based upon the teachings found in the present application.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 14 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

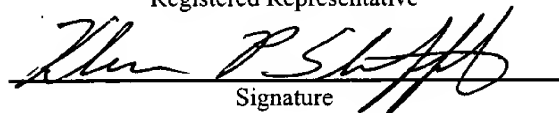
For the reasons given above, it is also respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 17-20 and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are also overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 22, 2003:

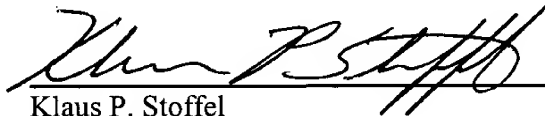
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Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature

September 22, 2003
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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